



Surpassing Expectations

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KY EXCEL Announces Seven New Members

The Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance is pleased to accept its first seven applicants into KY EXCEL. These members collectively committed to perform a diverse list of voluntary environmental projects that will positively impact Kentucky.

Temple Inland, Inc. (Master member) – Temple Inland’s Maysville paper mill was accepted into KY EXCEL on March 24, 2006. The facility, which is also a member of U.S. EPA’s National Environmental Performance Track program, has committed to reducing sulfur dioxide emissions, increasing energy efficiency, reducing the amount of solid waste being landfilled and reducing the use of chemicals in its production processes.

American Synthetic Rubber Company, LLC (Master member) – ASRC, which is located in Louisville, has committed to reduce its 1,3-butadiene emissions by more than 50% before the end of 2008 and its toluene emissions by 11 tons over the next three years. Other voluntary commitments by ASRC target solid waste disposal and recycling. ASRC was accepted into KY EXCEL on March 24, 2006 and is also a member of U.S. EPA’s National Environmental Performance Track program.

Louisville Forge & Gear, LLC (Master member) – On April 20, 2006, Louisville Forge & Gear was accepted into KY EXCEL for their commitments to reduce energy consumption and waste generation beyond levels required by Kentucky law. The company also voluntarily committed to increase its recycling. The Louisville Forge & Gear facility is located just off I-75 in Georgetown.

Taylor Residence (Advocate member) – This Lexington household became the first household to join KY EXCEL on February 15, 2006. As a family, the Taylors have committed to work within their neighborhood to increase the number of households that participate in Lexington’s curbside recycling program.

Smith Management Group, Inc. (Advocate member) – Smith Management Group joined KY EXCEL on February 15, 2006. This Lexington consulting firm decided to extend their office’s existing recycling efforts to areas other than paper. They have also committed to construct a butterfly garden in the industrial area where their office is located.

Green/Tradewater Rivers Basin Team (Advocate member) – This diverse team of stakeholders, which is focused on enhancing the Green and Tradewater River Basins, joined KY EXCEL on April 28, 2006. Their project commitment is to work with the City of Franklin and Simpson County to develop local ordinances governing zoning and growth. The program will explain issues including: community environmental impacts,

*For more information on KY EXCEL, contact the
Kentucky Division of Compliance Assistance at (800) 926-8111*

New Members, continued...

growth readiness planning, preserving streams and wetlands, improving impaired streams, public involvement and education, and economic impacts.

Kentucky Business Environmental Assistance Program (Advocate member) – KBEAP is a contractor for the Department for Environmental Protection that provides compliance assistance services for small businesses dealing with air quality requirements. The program is located at the University of Kentucky and can be reached by calling (800) 562-2327. On April 26, 2006, KBEAP joined KY EXCEL by committing to participating in KY EXCEL presentations, providing self assessment assistance to potential KY EXCEL members, and helping promote KY EXCEL to its clients and encouraging program participation.

Performance Assessment Workbook Now Available

The Division of Compliance Assistance has prepared a Performance Assessment Workbook that is electronically available at <http://www.dca.ky.gov/kyexcel/Performance+Assessment.htm>. This tool provides steps that a facility can follow to evaluate how well it manages its environmental responsibilities. It also identifies items that should be routinely evaluated to ensure the facility stays in compliance and reminds the user of waste reduction and efficiency opportunities that may exist at their facility.

Potential KY EXCEL members can use this tool when conducting the performance evaluation required for KY EXCEL membership. However, a facility does not need to be a KY EXCEL applicant to take advantage of this tool. Routine self-evaluation is an important step in ensuring effective environmental management at any location. Anyone with questions regarding this workbook or needs assistance in evaluating or addressing compliance concerns can get free assistance from the Division of Compliance Assistance by calling toll free (800) 926-8111.

KY EXCEL Job Announcement

The Division of Compliance Assistance is currently seeking candidates interested in administering the KY EXCEL program. This position will be the first full time position established for this exciting new program. This position will be involved in all aspects of the program including: reviewing program applications, promoting KY EXCEL and recruiting members, providing member assistance and helping match KY EXCEL applicants with organizations that are looking to partner on environmental projects.

This position is currently being advertised on the Personnel Cabinet's website as an Environmental Technologist III (Grade 14). The salary range is \$33,255.36 - \$44,056.56 yearly. Education and experience requirements can be found at: <http://personnel.ky.gov/personnel/downloads/v1633.htm>. Individuals interested in applying for this job must be on the state register for this position no later than May 19, 2006. If you wish to obtain more information about this position or would like to express an interest please e-mail Aaron Keatley at aaron.keitley@ky.gov.

KY EXCEL Receiving National Attention

Word is beginning to spread about the innovative ways that Kentucky is working with individuals, businesses, and communities to recognize and encourage voluntary environmental projects. KY EXCEL's innovative approach is being looked at as a model program and we are convinced that KY EXCEL will quickly become the largest leadership program in the nation.

In March, the Department for Environmental Protection was invited to participate with a panel at the Environmental Health and Safety Symposium in Cincinnati, OH to discuss KY EXCEL. Also on the panel was, the Technical Manager for Temple Inland, a KY EXCEL member, and the Global Environmental Program Leader for General Electric, a company that has pledged to join KY EXCEL. This unique blend of panel participants showed the various perspectives of why a company would want to consider joining KY EXCEL.

In late March, the Division of Compliance Assistance was invited to describe the KY EXCEL program at a national conference for small business assistance providers in New Hampshire. Over 150 small business providers attended this conference.

Just this week, Kentucky joined the states of Virginia and Colorado in a session at the 2006 National Environmental Partnership Summit in Atlanta, Georgia. This conference included attendees from 47 states and 7 countries representing both the public and private sectors. We were invited to speak at this conference to describe KY EXCEL, highlight how KY EXCEL was developed, and discuss the successes we are beginning to see from our members.

KY EXCEL Workshops a Big Hit

The Division of Compliance Assistance, Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center, and the Kentucky Business Environmental Assistance Program have partnered together to deliver five workshops across the Commonwealth that explain KY EXCEL and the benefits of joining.

The first workshop was held in Hopkinsville on March 15 and the second workshop was held in Florence on April 11. More than 60 companies attended these two workshops. They were provided information on KY EXCEL, training on developing an environmental management plan, a summary of things to consider when conducting a performance assessment, and an opportunity to discuss potential incentives for KY EXCEL members. Following the training, half of the attendees indicated that they were planning to join KY EXCEL. Many others indicated they were interested in joining KY EXCEL and would recommend joining to their management.

There are still three more workshops scheduled for this spring. On May 16, interested parties can join us in Louisville. More than 60 individuals are already scheduled to attend. In June we will be meeting in Prestonsburg and the workshops will wrap up in Somerset on July 11. There is no charge to attend these workshops. You can find more information about these workshops and register online at the Kentucky Pollution Prevention Center's website located at www.kppc.org.

Partnership Opportunities Available

One of the interesting things that the Division is finding as we implement KY EXCEL is that many potential applicants are looking to partner with other KY EXCEL members. Some applicants have expressed an interest in mentoring others, providing technical assistance, and offering financial assistance. Other applicants have expressed a need for assistance or a desire to partner with others on specific projects.

To facilitate this opportunity, the Division has committed to help applicants with needs to match up with applicants with the needed resources. Over time we hope to create an interactive website that will allow applicants to find potential matches themselves. Until that happens, if you are interested in joining KY EXCEL and have either a need or a resource that you would like to provide, let us know. We will try to match members together so you can maximize the benefits you receive from KY EXCEL. The Division will also be maintaining a list of project ideas on the KY EXCEL website so applicants can find partnering opportunities.

KY EXCEL Members Receive Help with Compliance Questions

Recently, KY EXCEL members have been working with the Division of Compliance Assistance to address their environmental questions and concerns. Examples of this assistance include:

- ➔ reconsideration of an event that had earlier been defined as a regulated release,
- ➔ assistance with stormwater permitting requirements and discussing improvements that can be made to correct discharge violations,
- ➔ assistance in ensuring permits are moving through the permitting review process
- ➔ defining materials that can be recycled instead of being disposed.

The Division wants to ensure that everyone has the information needed to meet environmental obligations. Please contact us if you need help. Compliance assistance is provided free of charge and can be obtained by calling (800) 926-8111.